

C O P Y J C T
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Cindy Huang

Date

7/9/2002

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111		Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	UCAL250CON4 4393
Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		First Named Inventor	M. LaVail
		Application Number	08/897,390
		Filing Date	July 21, 1997
		Group Art Unit	1647
		Examiner Name	R.C. Hayes
		Title	<i>Prevention of retinal injury and degeneration by specific factors</i>

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated February 13, 2002 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before May 13, 2002. ***A Petition for a two-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith, making this amendment due on or before July 13, 2002.*** Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

In view of the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter the amendments to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22-24, 26, 29, 31, and 33, as shown below.

07/22/2002 SSESHE1 00000052 500015 08897390

Please enter new claims 39-41, as shown below.

01 FC:103 54.00 CH
02 FC:102 84.00 CH
03 FC:116 400.00 CH

1. (Amended) A method of reducing degeneration of retinal neurons in a mammal caused by exposure to light or other environmental trauma comprising administering to the mammal, prior to, during or following such exposure, a dose of a neurotrophic factor effective to reduce degeneration of retinal neurons, wherein degeneration of retinal neurons is reduced.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said retinal neurons are photoreceptors.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said administration is intraocular.